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AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL
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МЕЖДУНАРОДНАЯ АМНИСТИЯ
منظمة العفو الدولية
國際特赦組織

URGENT ACTION

EXTERNAL **AI Index: ASA 21/05/97**

EXTRA 20/97 Fear of torture / Medical concern **13 February 1997**

EAST TIMOR **Tomas Caiware (35), Fransisco Ximenes (28), Celestino Jerronimo, Armindo Soares (30), Gaspar Pinto (19), Agostinho Orlandor (19), Evangel Menezes (22), Fransisco Jesus (18), Armando (25), Paulo (28), Paulo Soares (27), Adelino (27), Agustinho da Silva (19), Gaspar (18), Acacio (20), Napoleon Amaral (27), Luis (27), Luis (20), Domingos Pinto (22), Eduardo Amaral (20), Alberto (16), Luis Pinto (16), Agostinho (19), Raimundo (23), Mau-Meta (15), Luis Gama (20), Paulo (20), Egas (20), Paulo Alves (28), Gaspar (18), Mateus (23), Moises (19), Luis (26), Fransisco Rangal (23)**

At least 33 East Timorese have been have been arrested in the Viqueque district of East Timor in the past week and are now being held in military custody where they are at serious risk of torture and ill-treatment. One of the 33 is believed to have been shot and wounded.

Two people, Tomas Caiware and Armindo Soares, were arrested on 7 February and are now believed to be held at a military post in Darabai, Uatulari in the district of Viqueque. A further 30 people were arrested the following day and are all now detained at the KODIM post (District Military Command) in Viqueque. It is not known if any of the detainees have access to independent legal representation. The detainees are believed to come mainly from the town of Macadique, Viqueque.

Up to four people are also reported to have been shot by the military. One of them, Luis, was arrested on 10 February after being shot and wounded. It is not known where he is being detained or whether he has access to medical treatment. Sources believe that one of the other three people reportedly shot, Fransisco Rangel, may have died as a result of his injuries.

The precise reason for the arrests and shootings is not known, although some reports say they are linked to recent civil disturbances in the Viqueque district.

Amnesty International is seriously concerned for the safety of all of those held in military custody. In addition the organization is concerned by reports that the authorities' response to disturbances has included shootings resulting in injuries and possibly one death.

There are unconfirmed reports of further arrests in the area.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The authorities have frequently responded to civil disturbances, including peaceful pro-independence demonstrations in East Timor, with force including beatings and shootings. East Timorese taken into military and police custody continue to be at risk of torture and ill-treatment, particularly during interrogation. Safeguards against the use of torture and other violations of detainees' rights, provided for under Indonesia's Code of Criminal Procedure, are frequently ignored by the military and the police. Detainees are routinely denied access to legal counsel and their families, thereby increasing the risk of ill-treatment or torture.

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RECOMMENDED ACTION: Please send telegrams/telexes/faxes/express/airmail letters in Bahasa Indonesia or your own language:
- urging the authorities to provide information on the whereabouts of Luis and guarantees that none of the 33 detained will be subjected to ill-treatment or torture;
- calling on the authorities to ensure that all detainees are given immediate access to independent legal counsel and family members and to medical treatment;
- calling on the authorities to provide details of the exact charges against anyone who has been detained in relation to alleged civil disturbances in the Viqueque region.

APPEALS TO:

Military Commander Region IX/Udayana
(Covers Bali, Lombok, Nusa Tenggara and East Timor)
Major General Rivai
Pangdam IX/Udayana
Markas Besar KODAM IX/Udayana
Denpasar, Bali, Indonesia
Telegrams: Pangdam IX, Udayana, Denpasar, Bali, Indonesia
Salutation: Dear Major General

Commander of the Armed Forces (ABRI)
General Feisal Tanjung
Panglima ABRI
Markas Besar ABRI
Jalan Medan merdeka Barat No 13
Jakarta Timur, Indonesia
Fax + 6221 36 1471/35 6404
Salutation: Dear General

COPIES TO:

National Commission on Human Rights
Komisi Nasional Hak Asazi Manusai (Komnas HAM)
Alex Refialy SO
Jalan Dr Antonio de Carvelho
Dili, East Timor (Indonesia)
Minister of Foreign Affairs
Ali Alatas SH
Menteri Luar Negeri
Jalan Medan Taman Pejambon No.6
Jakarta, Indonesia
Fax: + 6221 360 515/380 5511/345 7782/724 5354

and to diplomatic representatives of Indonesia accredited to your country.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY. Check with the International Secretariat, or your section office, if sending appeals after 15 March 1997.